

Here Are Ways Our Church Council Cares for Creation



Participates in MVEC's Energy Wise program.

Buy locally grown food.



Have an energy-saving thermostat and installed LED light bulbs.



Installed a raised bed vegetable garden.

Use a sand-based (instead of clay) kitty litter that comes in recyclable cardboard box.



Created a pollinator-friendly garden.

Have a vegetable garden and compost area.



Use bamboo toilet paper and cloth napkins/paper towels.



Maintain a practice of eating at least one, if not more, vegetarian, or vegan meals each week.



Participate in waste hauler's organic recycling program (composting).

Took a leadership role in employers corporate Environmental Sustainment Team.

Use laundry soap sheets and powder to reduce single use plastic jugs.

Use silicone bags and beeswax wraps instead of plastic baggies.



Maintain a rain garden on our property.

Participate in plastic recycling program.



Do NOT have a yard sprinkling system. During drought times or hot weather, we limit our outdoor water to garden plants and floral gardens only.

Have conversations with our kids about WHY and value of taking care of Mother Earth.

Purchase clothing and shoes made of natural and/or recycled products.



Contribute to organizations whose mission is environmental conservation.

What Does Your Family Do?

Turn this sheet over for action items and ideas your family can do to care for God's Creation.

Restoring God's Earth: A Year of Personal Action

<p>January What's Your Carbon Footprint</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calculate your carbon footprint. • Don't idle your car; use gas efficiently. • Drive smoothly, use cruise control on long trips. • Use reusable bags and avoid plastic bags. 	<p>February Increasing Energy Efficiency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request a free Energy Savings Analysis from your electric utility • Turn down your thermostat—68° in the day/60° at night. • Install a programmable thermostat. • Upgrade to Energy Star appliances. 	<p>March Healthy Air</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive less, carpool, ride a bike. • Run multiple errands together to reduce vehicle emissions. • Get your car tuned up and check tire pressure. • Use rechargeable batteries where possible.
<p>April Healthy Soil—Heathy Garden, Healthy Soul</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about container and raised bed gardening. • Compost organic waste. • Shop at farmers markets. • Mulch your garden with shredded leaves and avoid tilling. 	<p>May Creation-Friendly Yards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant host plants for butterflies. • Replace non-native plants with native plants. • Build a nest block or native Mason Bees. • Build a bird house or install a bird bath in your yard. 	<p>June Moving to a More Plant-Rich Diet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try a vegetable you haven't tried before. • Try a new plant-based recipe. • Visit a vegan restaurant for inspiration. • Replace meat with seasoned beans, legumes, or lentils in a recipe 1 day a week.
<p>July Composting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freeze food scraps for composting. • Build or buy a composting bin. • Participate in your waste hauler's organics program. • Encourage neighbors or friends to compost. 	<p>August Conserving Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn off faucet while brushing your teeth. • Use leftover water to feed houseplants. • Take short showers instead of baths. • Keep a reusable container of drinking water in the refrigerator. 	<p>September Environmental Stewardship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read up on environmental stewardship. • Commit to the use of clean, renewable sources of energy. • Commit to energy conservation. • Increase efforts to reduce, reuse, and recycle.
<p>October A Zero Waste Home</p>	<p>November Reducing Food Waste</p>	<p>December Shrinking Consumerism for Christmas and Beyond</p>

Coming Soon. Check the Creation Care page for new monthly actionable tips.